



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Agricultural and Educational Statistics of several Parishes in the County of Middlesex. By HENRY TREMENHEERE, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, 20th February, 1843.]

It is the design of this paper to embody the results of some enquiries undertaken in five rural parishes in the vicinity of London, by presenting in a tabular form their respective quantities of produce during the last year, and their progress in wealth. Some observations are appended on their past and present state of cultivation. In the course of this inquiry a few data having been obtained on the progress of population, the provision for education, and the amount of accommodation in churches and chapels in these and two adjoining parishes, they are subjoined, with some very brief comments, and are presented simply as a collection of facts, which, as relating to parishes so near the metropolis, it may not be uninteresting to place on record.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

The geographical position of the district, the agricultural produce of which is here presented, is as follows :—It comprises the five parishes of Norwood, Greenford, Perivale, Hanwell and Ealing, which are contiguous to each other, and contain an aggregate of 10,088 A. 1 R. 4 P. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Acton and Harrow, on the west by the parishes of Hayes, Harrow, and Northhold, on the north by Harrow, and on the south by the parishes of Heston, Isleworth, Chiswick, and the river Thames, and is distant from six to ten miles from the metropolis.

I.—Average and Rentals.

Norwood, 2,259 Acres.		Greenford, 2,032 Acres.		Perivale, 626 Acres.		Hanwell, 1,363 Acres.		Ealing, 3,807 Acres.	
A. D.	£	A. D.	£	A. D.	£	A. D.	£	A. D.	£
—	—	1800	2471	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	1812	†3272	—	—	1801	1500	1791	17,085
—	—	1820	2924	—	—	1810	2164	1799	26,206
—	—	1828	2841	—	—	1820	3209	1814	26,391
—	—	1832	3086	—	—	1830	3559	1824	26,777
1842	7696*	1842	4438	1842	1200	1841	5563	1839	30,754

II.—Live Stock.

Description.	Norwood.	Greenford.	Perivale.	Hanwell.	Ealing.	Total.
Grazing Cattle . .	124	118	20	..	62	324
Cows	56	59	31	48	95	289
Sheep	650	333	531	108	1200	2822
Horses employed in } Agriculture . }	86	63	17	30	73	269
	916	573	599	186	1430	3704

* It is regretted that the previous rental of this parish cannot be given, but access to the parochial books could not be obtained.

† The Paddington Canal, which passes through this parish, was in this year rated to the amount of 600*l.* per annum, which in a subsequent year was reduced to 35*l.*

III.—Agricultural Produce in the Year 1842.

Description of Produce.	Norwood.			Greenford.			Perivale.			Hanwell.			Ealing.		
	No. of Acres.	Gross Produce.	Produce per Acre.	No. of Acres.	Gross Produce.	Produce per Acre.	No. of Acres.	Gross Produce.	Produce per Acre.	No. of Acres.	Gross Produce.	Produce per Acre.	No. of Acres.	Gross Produce.	Produce per Acre.
Wheat . .	223	*392 qrs.	32 bshls.	43½	130½ qrs.	24 bshls.	20	55 qrs.	22 bshls.	60	285 qrs.	38 bshls.	250	1093 qrs. 6 sks	35 bshls.
Barley . .	49	235 do.	40 do.	3	14½ do.	38 do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	375 qrs.	50 do.
Oats . .	68	272 do.	32 do.	25½	127½ do.	40 do.	..	..	..	..	120 do.	48 do.	82	440 qrs. 6 bshl	43 do.
Rye . .	11	cut green.	..	1	cut green.	..	..	..	..	..	6 do.	24 do.	26	cut green.	..
Beans . .	76	380 qrs.	24 do.*	96	384 qrs.	32 bshls.	33	135 do.	32 do.	30	90 do.	24 do.	76	306 qrs.	34 do.
Peas . .	12	27 do.	..	12	36 do.	24 do.	..	..	..	20	gathrd. grn.	..	40	..†	..
Hay . .	545	409½ tons	¾ of ton.	1500	1125 tons	¾ of ton.	500	375 tons.	¾ of ton.	600	600 tons.	1 ton.	1300	1300 tons.	1 ton.
Tares . .	18	sold green.	..	45	sold green.	..	..	..	..	10	sold green.	..	36	sold green.	..
Turnips . .	69	536 tons	8 tons.	10½	fed off.	..	..	..	..	20	sold off.	..	96	672 tons.	7 tons.
Mangel } Wurzel }	38	608 do.	16 do.	1½	24 tons.	16 tons.	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	705 do.	15 do.
Potatoes .	69	469 do.	7 do.	4½	83 sks 1 bshl	74 bshls.	..	..	..	20	120 tons.	6 tons.	123	3485 sacks.	85 bshls.
Clover . .	36	cut for cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	20 loads.	2 loads.	..	..	..

* Three acres gathered green.

† Twenty acres gathered green, remainder failed.

IV.—Population, &c.

Census.	Norwood.			Greenford.			Perivale.			Hanwell.			Ealing.		
	1821	1831	1841	1821	1831	1841	1821	1831	1841	1821	1831	1841	1821	1831	1841
Inhabited Houses	195	212	234	78	86	95	5	5	5	164	214	247	1116	1325	1607
Families employed in Agriculture	14	*149	..	61	63	..	4	5	..	34	28	..	269	288	..
Labourers in Agriculture . . . .	..	138	..	..	66	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	315	..
Total Population	1124	1320	1428	415	477	588	25	32	46	977	1213	1469	6608	7783	9407

* This is apparently a mistake in the published Census for that year.

† Including 106 persons in barges and barns.

‡ Includes the town of Old Brentford, 71 haymakers temporarily employed, and 17 persons in barges.

§ Includes the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, containing 1005 persons.

|| Including 16 persons in barns.

The parish or precinct of *Norwood* is divided by the Uxbridge road into two nearly equal portions, that on the north is composed of a heavy clay soil, that on the south of a light loam and of gravel. The rent of land varies from 40s. to 50s. per acre, and the farms in the southern division of the parish produce a rent of 20s. per acre more than those in the northern division. The largest farm consists of 250 acres, and the highest rent paid is 600*l.* per annum. The surface in the northern part of the parish indicates that the greater part of it was, within no very remote period, in a state of tillage. It is now almost entirely pasture land. A third part of the arable land of the whole parish is now annually sown with wheat. Two, and occasionally three horses are used at the plough, and on one farm a team of four oxen has been recently introduced. The drill husbandry prevails. The soil is well manured with stable dung procured from London; little care, however, is taken of the manure made on the land. The liquid produce of the stables and outhouses is permitted to run into the farmyards, and to stagnate in black ponds in the winter, and evaporate to dryness in the summer months. The farmers' wives complain of the loss of their chickens by drinking the putrid water of these neglected reservoirs. The only machine of a comparatively modern construction observed in the parish was a winnowing machine. There is a strong prejudice in this district against the use of all modern inventions for facilitating or abridging labour, and the dislike to many admirable machines, now much used in husbandry, originates in a conscientious though mistaken solicitude for the welfare of the labouring classes. The wages of labour vary from 12s. to 15s. per week. A farm of 250 acres gives permanent employment to 14 labourers. The village of Southall, formerly a posting station on the Oxford road, is situate within this parish, and possesses a large weekly cattle market which increases the value of land by the competition which it causes among the salesmen frequenting the market, who require the occasional or permanent use of land for the sustenance of cattle brought for sale from a distance. This market is resorted to not only by the farmers and dealers of the neighbourhood but by the tradesmen of London. The Great Western Railway passes through the parish and has a station at Southall. It has occasionally much affected prices in this market and has caused much discontent among the farmers, who complain that, in consequence of the facility which it affords for the rapid transfer of stock from one county to another, they have been deprived of the advantages of a species of monopoly which they formerly possessed in consequence of the proximity of their farms to London. Five hundred head of sheep and one hundred head of cattle have been suddenly introduced to the market from the west of England, prices have been proportionally forced down, and the Middlesex farmer has been compelled to sell his stock at a loss, or to withdraw it from competition. The price of hay has also been much reduced by the diminution in the number of post-horses, and this is another grievance for which the railway is chargeable. Indeed some farmers loudly express their apprehensions that it is not only ruining their business and depreciating the value of landed property, but that it will ultimately bring about a revolution in the state.

The parish of *Greenford* comprises—

	A.	R.	P.
Meadow land	1605	1	5
Arable land	371	1	8
Woodland	54	1	13

and is divided into about 12 farms, the largest of which consists of 221 acres. The rent of land varies from 32*s.* to 3*l.* per acre. Leases are generally granted for 21 years. The soil is a strong clay, well calculated for the growth of wheat, beans, and tares. Much of it is susceptible of amelioration by a good system of draining, for which the position of the land affords many facilities. Little, however, has been done in this department of agricultural improvement. Lime and brick-dust from the kiln have been applied with good effect to some very adhesive soil. In parts of the parish the land, in rainy seasons, becomes so saturated with water as to be unfit for the support of cattle, and is converted by the drought of summer into an indurated clay, opening into wide fissures. Four and occasionally six horses are yoked to the plough. Thirty acres of woodland have been recently cleared and brought into a state of tolerable cultivation, under a lease for seven years rent-free. No modern machinery of any kind exists in this parish. It will be remarked that the meadow land bears a large proportion to the aggregate of the parish. An intelligent resident farmer is of opinion that 50 years ago the cultivation of corn was predominant, and capacious barns, which are attached to every farm, attest that large quantities of grain were once grown on land long since converted into meadow and pasture. The high price of hay at the commencement and during the continuance of the late war must have acted as an inducement to change arable land into meadow. The existing produce in wheat is but small. In the last year, on one farm three acres of wheat produced an aggregate of only four quarters. Wages vary from 12*s.* to 13*s.*; manure, as in the adjoining parishes, is brought from London. The assessment for the relief of the poor is at present 1*s.* in the pound.

The small parish of *Perivale* belongs entirely to one proprietor, and is divided into five farms, the largest of which comprises 179 acres. The rent of land varies from 35*s.* to 45*s.* per acre. The soil is a heavy clay, requiring four and occasionally six horses to plough it. Sixty acres only are in tillage, and the return in grain is very small. It is the opinion of the resident farmers that at least half the parish has been laid down in grass within the period of 50 years. On one farm, consisting of 170 acres, 50 acres were under the plough in 1829. In that year the return was so trifling as to induce the tenant, with the permission of the landlord, to lay down the whole in grass. Fourteen bushels per acre was the maximum produce in wheat obtained at that time from the land, although it had been well manured. The most profitable mode of managing the land is found to be the production of hay for the London market. The drainage is defective, and the farmers are disinclined to attempt improvements. In this, as in the neighbouring parish of Norwood, a fall in the price of live stock is imputed to the railroad. Few cattle are fed. The pastures are consequently always understocked, and it has become customary in this, as in some adjoining parishes, to let a portion of the grass land after the hay harvest to the sheep farmers of distant counties, who sometimes drive their flocks for better pasturage

into the meadows of Middlesex, when the stubble fields cease to afford adequate food. Sheep are taken in to feed at the rate of 2s. 6d. per score, and they are driven back on the approach of winter to their folds in the midland counties. There are no cottages in this parish, and consequently no resident labourers. Wages vary from 12s. to 14s. per week. Leases are granted for 21 years. The Paddington Canal passes through the parish, and affords an easy mode of transporting manure from London.

The parish of *Hanwell* comprises—

	A.
Arable land	200
Meadow and pasture	789
Woodland	2
Market garden	20
Roads, water, &c.	52

The Uxbridge road passes through the parish. On the south of this road the soil consists of a light loam and gravel; on the north of gravel and clay. There are only two farms in the parish, one consisting of 170, the other of 80 acres, the remaining land consists of a park, meadows, and paddocks, and ornamental grounds. The two farms are occupied by tenants-at-will. Fifty acres of heavy land have been recently drained at the landlord's expense. The rent is about 50s. per acre. Manure is supplied from London; three horses are required for the plough. Wheat is partly drilled, and partly sown broad-cast. Neither modern machinery nor artificial manures are used. Considerable changes have taken place in the relative proportions of arable and meadow land, as well as in the number and size of the farms. An old inhabitant remembers that in the year 1780, the parish was divided into seven farms, and at least half the land in tillage.

By a survey in the year 1803, the parish was found to comprise—

	A.	R.	P.
Enclosed meadow land	465	2	26
Enclosed arable land	179	0	38
Lammas meadows	65	0	2
Common field land	148	3	11
Houses	27	2	1
Common, roads, and water	177	1	32

The common field land appears to have been unenclosed but cultivated: after the crops were removed, the parishioners possessed a right of pasture. The Lammas meadows were also unenclosed, and were subject to a similar public right, commencing however on a fixed day (the 1st of August) without reference to the state of the crops; a right, which although the parishioners might have legally used it, does not appear to have ever been exercised to the prejudice of the occupying tenant. For the common field land and the Lammas meadows a rent was paid varying from 20s. to 30s. per acre. In 1814 these public rights were destroyed by an Act of Parliament, and the property was enclosed, together with 124 acres of waste land. Since the enclosure, the value of the property formerly composing the Lammas meadows and the common field land has considerably increased, and it now produces a rent of 3l. per acre.

The parish of *Ealing* is composed of two different descriptions of soil—the heavy or clay, and a light rich loam; the former constituting chiefly meadow or pasture land, the latter arable farms and market

gardens. The proportions of each description of land are about equal. The farms and market gardens are about 50. The largest farm does not exceed 400 acres, and the highest rent paid is 800*l.* a-year. There are numerous inconsiderable holdings varying from 10 to 40 acres each, which are rented by dairymen and small farmers. The market gardens vary in size from 2 to 96 acres. The rent paid for farms containing arable and pasture land varies from 40*s.* to 60*s.* per acre; but some meadow land, in very favourable situations, produces a rent of 4*l.* per acre. Farms are generally held on leases for 21 years. The farm-houses attached to some of the larger estates are of a rather superior kind, indicating the easy circumstances of the tenants, and a considerable degree of comfort and respectability. The abundance of manure which is obtained from London makes the farmer, in a great degree, exempt from that necessity which compels a systematic rotation of crops. On one farm three crops of grain have been taken from the same field in consecutive years. Six hundred loads of stable dung have been drawn from London in the course of a year, and used, together with that made on the estate, on a farm of 250 acres. In consequence of the local advantage which this parish possesses, artificial manures have not hitherto met with much attention. Pulverised lime is occasionally used for the destruction of the wire worm, and nitrate of soda has been spread on grass land with good effect. Little use is made of modern agricultural machinery. Only one thrashing machine exists in the parish, and that has been recently introduced. On its being mentioned by the owner at a farmers' ordinary at Uxbridge, and some of the straw and grain which it had worked being exhibited, he was generally blamed for using an invention so injurious to the labourer!

A considerable portion of the parish of Ealing, it will be observed, consists of market gardens, and forms a part of that large area, in the vicinity of the metropolis, comprehending much of the land lying on both sides of the Western road, which has been justly denominated the great fruit and vegetable garden of London. The fruit gardeners have an upper and an under crop growing on the land at the same time. The ground is first stocked with large fruit trees; it is then thickly planted with those of a smaller kind and with strawberries, together with such vegetables as are found to thrive under the shade, and do not suffer from the drip of the trees above them. The soil is an excellent loam. The quantity of manual labour depending on these gardens is very great. They afford occupation during the winter months to three persons per acre, and in the summer to at least five more; and in some of the gardens during the fruit season the whole amount of industry called into activity, including market people, basket women, dealers, and hawkers, cannot be estimated at less than 30 persons per acre. The average rent paid for these gardens is 10*l.* per acre. Wages vary from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per week, and the number of women as compared with men employed throughout the year, is in the proportion of two to one. The average assessment for the relief of the poor from the year 1827 to 1833 was 4*s.* in the pound; from the year 1835 to 1841 it has been reduced to 2*s.* 8½*d.*

Several surveys of the parish of Ealing have been made during the last half century, a reference to which will exhibit the changes which have taken place in its agriculture.

Years.	Meadow and Pasture Land.			Arable Land.			Market Gardens.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
1799	1377	0	0	1027	0	0	289	2	2
1814*	1600	0	0	800	0	0	..		
1839	1976	2	39	834	0	39	469	3	26

The relative proportions of the meadow and arable land and market gardens have, it will be observed by the Table, considerably varied in the course of half a century. The increase in the rental is in some degree to be accounted for by an increase in the number of houses, but has chiefly arisen from the conversion of arable land into market gardens, a natural consequence of the proximity of London, which by constantly enlarging the circle whence its various supplies are drawn, must gradually make the cultivation of the surrounding district more artificial and productive.

An important benefit was conferred on the labouring population of the parish of Ealing, in the year 1832, by the Bishop of London, as Lord of the Manor of Ealing, who granted 20 acres of waste land, to be divided into small allotments, for the use of the industrious and well-conducted poor. The arrangements are superintended by the vicar, who is aided by a committee of management. The quantity of ground granted to each person is 20 rods, for which he pays a yearly rent of 5s. The land is divided into 146 allotments, and so highly is the privilege valued of possessing one of these garden plots, that there are at the present time the names of 50 applicants on the manager's book. An agreement is signed by every occupant, pledging himself to shew a good example to the other tenants by sober and moral conduct, and not to work on Sunday.

This system is found to be attended with very beneficial results. The allotments are too small to make the able-bodied labourer independent of the wages of regular employment, but sufficiently large to afford him occupation when work is scarce, and to supply an object of interest, on which many hours that would otherwise probably have been passed in idleness or dissipation, are cheerfully and profitably employed. To the old and others, whose infirmities preclude them from vigorous labour, these allotments are peculiarly valuable, by their effect in deferring the period of refuge to the Union workhouse. There are instances in this parish of aged and respectable married labourers subsisting almost entirely on the produce of their allotments, with the addition of 2s. and two loaves of bread weekly from the parish. The plots are cultivated with vegetables of various kinds. Twenty sacks of potatoes have been produced on one allotment, yielding not only a supply for a labourer's family throughout the year, but sufficient for the keep of a pig, and leaving a surplus for sale.

The town of Old Brentford forms part of the parish of Ealing, and has for several years exhibited a tendency to decay. Its almost total disuse as a posting station on the western road has greatly accelerated its decline. Many inns and public houses, once in full business, have

* There is not any record of the exact quantity of market garden ground in this year.

disappeared, and several that now exist can with difficulty struggle against the embarrassments which have overtaken them. The dependents on these houses have been thrown out of employment, or compelled to resort to new and ill-adapted occupations. Many small tradesmen are, it is believed, verging upon insolvency. The labouring population consists of about 3000, and may be divided into three classes,—1st, those depending upon market-gardens in the vicinity; 2ndly, fishermen; and, 3dly, a considerable body of men attached to a large soap manufactory, an extensive distillery, gas works, and water-works. The labourers in market-gardens receive wages, rarely exceeding 12s. per week, and in winter are frequently unemployed; the gains of fishermen are always fluctuating, and amount, in the summer, frequently to a considerable sum, but their improvidence in this town is proverbial, and they are generally involved in difficulties before the winter; the labourers in manufactories, gas works, &c. receive wages averaging a guinea per week. Two-thirds of the labouring population may be considered as in a depressed condition, many in consequence of their own improvidence. It is but justice to add, that many individuals in easy circumstances are fully alive to the condition of the poorer classes, and that well-directed and energetic efforts are made to mitigate the suffering that surrounds them.

The town of New Brentford, although apparently undistinguishable from Old Brentford, forms a distinct parish, and in its economical state differs little from Old Brentford, and the same general depression exists.

These brief details are presented as a slight contribution to the sum of facts admitted to be very deficient on the subject of rural statistics. An accurate and complete statement of the yearly produce of our agriculture is much to be desired, and the want of it has frequently been lamented by the statesman and the economist. Some partial attempts of this nature, sanctioned by public authority, have not been successful to the extent that could be desired. Little can be expected from mere individual efforts and local opportunities. The enquiries of which the results are embodied in this paper have been met by the farmers, with a very few exceptions, in a frank and friendly spirit, and a disposition has been rarely evinced to withhold the information solicited. Should the Government ever resolve to institute similar enquiries on a comprehensive and systematic plan, it is believed that, although the undertaking might at first encounter opposition and mistrust, suspicions would be gradually allayed, and prejudices subdued. It has been often and justly observed, that without accurate and complete returns of agricultural produce, no correct data can be obtained for the guidance of the legislature on some of the most important questions which can engage its attention, nor can any just conception be formed of the progressive extension and actual amount of this great element of the national wealth. And it might reasonably be urged, that at this period of change, the periodical collection of accurate returns from the whole kingdom would be of eminent service both to the agricultural and commercial interests, by widening the basis of ascertained facts, on which to found future arrangements.

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

The parishes, of which the educational statistics are subjoined, consist of Greenford, Hanwell, Acton, Ealing, and the towns of Old and New

Brentford. The state of elementary education will be best understood by an inspection of the accompanying Table:—

V.—Schools.

Parishes.	Infant Schools.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Children attending.		Total Children.
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	British and Foreign Schools.	Boys	Girls	Common Day Schools.	Boys	Girls	Middle Day Schools.	Boys	Girls		
Greenford ..	..	..	1	5	7	1	19	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Hanwell. ..	..	..	4	20	28	1	66	45	..	..	..	..	15	..	1	207
Acton ..	1	43	41	3	17	18	1	46	62	..	..	..	1	20	..	247
Ealing ..	1	20	30	6	23	38	1	90	69	..	..	..	2	34	..	339
Old Brentford	1	119	81	2	40	46	1	..	78	1	162	110	1	15	..	705	
New Brentford	1	40	49	3	15	13	1	62	58	..	..	..	1	..	..	277
	4	222	201	19	119	150	6	283	333	1	162	110	5	94	15	1827	

VI.—Churches and Chapels.

Parishes.	Churches.	Number of Sittings.	Dissenting Chapels.	Number of Sittings.	Total Sittings.	Population.
Greenford .	1	200	1	40	240	588
Hanwell . .	1	700	1	200	900	1468
Ealing . .	1	1100	1	150	1250	3435
Old Brentford	1	850	3	1050	1900	4972
New Brentford	1	838	1	200	1038	2174
	5	3,688	7	1,640	5,328	15,302

The endowed Free Charity School, in the parish of Greenford, was established in the year 1780, for instructing the children “to read, write, cast accounts, and in the principles of the Christian religion; and the girls to sew and knit.” All are clothed at the expense of the charity. The school is well conducted, and is visited daily by the clergyman, who personally instructs the children in Scripture History, and provides weekly a set of questions, which the children are expected to answer on the Sunday, and on examination they receive such aid as may be necessary to bring the sense of Scripture fully home to their understandings. The children who attend the dame school pay 4*d.* per week. The labouring population of this parish is wholly agricultural.

The National School of Hanwell is supported by subscription. No clothes are distributed to the children. The master was trained at the Central School of the National Society. The children are well instructed in mental arithmetic. A Sunday school is connected with the Independent chapel, and is attended by 30 children, the greater part of whom receive daily elementary instruction in private schools. The payment in the dame schools vary from 3*d.* to 6*d.* per week. Three of these schools are kept by Dissenters, who use no catechism, and one by a member of the church: in this school Dissenting parents allow their children to be instructed in the Church Catechism. The payment in the common day school varies from 13*s.* to 21*s.* per quarter, according to the amount of instruction, which is confined to reading, writing, arithmetic, history, and geography.

The National School, in the parish of Acton, for boys and girls, is

supported by subscription, and conducted by a mistress, who has the sole management. The instruction is confined to reading, writing, the four first rules of arithmetic, and a little Scripture geography. The only reading book is the Bible. The greater part of every afternoon is devoted to needle-work, and knitting, in which the boys join. Two dame schools are kept by Dissenters, and one by a member of the church; the payments varying from 4*d.* to 6*d.* per week. The Church Catechism is taught in all.

In the endowed National School of the parish of Ealing, 28 of the boys are clothed from the funds of the school; the instruction given to the boys is confined to reading, writing, arithmetic, a little grammar, and the outlines of geography and history; Wilhelm's system of singing has been recently introduced. The only reading book, for all classes, is the Bible. The master was regularly trained. The elementary instruction given at the girls' school consists of reading, writing, a little arithmetic, and Scripture history. There are no elementary books. The Bible alone is used by all classes. The children are employed chiefly in needle-work. The funds of these schools are considerable, and arise from the bequests of individuals who have resided in the parish. The dame schools are all kept by members of the Church of England. The children of many Dissenters attend these schools, and, with the approbation of their parents, receive instruction in the Church Catechism. The payments vary from 3*d.* to 6*d.* per week. A Sunday school (connected with the chapel of the Independents) consists of 40 children, who all receive daily instruction in the dame or the common day schools. One of the common day schools is well known as Lady Noel Byron's school, and was established on the principle of combining industrial training with elementary instruction. The boarders, amounting to 48, come from London, or from its vicinity, and 24 from Ealing, as day scholars, who pay 2*d.* per week for instruction, which embraces, in addition to the common rudiments of education, elementary mathematics, geology, and agricultural chemistry.

It is not to be expected that any sacrifices will be made by the distressed portion of the inhabitants of Brentford to afford their children the advantages of education. Indeed in the low moral state which unhappily accompanies abject poverty, the examples at home would, perhaps, more than neutralize the lessons of the school. And it cannot but be doubtful whether any impression can be made upon the minds of children, through the medium of education, while by scanty food, insufficient clothing, and poverty in all its forms, the animal nature is in a state of grievous depression. It is consolatory, however, to observe that in this town the desire to educate their children is one of the first symptoms of improved circumstances amongst the poor, and that when an unwillingness is found to send children to school in consequence of the want, or the meanness of clothing, relief is judiciously administered in this form, and is always gratefully accepted.

The girls' National School, at Old Brentford, was founded by Mrs. Trimmer, in 1789, and is supported by annual subscription. One penny per week is paid by the parents of the children.

The British and Foreign School was established in 1834. The master and mistress have been regularly trained. Many of the boys, and a large proportion of the girls, of this school, attend the Church Sunday School.

In the dame schools the Church Catechism is taught to all the children, and Watts's Catechism, *in addition*, to the children of Dissenters.

The Church Sunday School has 345 on its books, and the average attendance is 240. There are 15 voluntary teachers; nearly all the children attend some day school. An adult school has also recently been established under the superintendence of the officiating clergyman, for the instruction of persons of both sexes in reading and writing, and for improvement in scriptural knowledge. It originated with the females, who were incited by the proficiency made by their daughters in the schools, particularly in writing, and has led to class meetings twice a week. The number attending is 30, and a desire to avail themselves of this mode of supplying the want of an early education, is rapidly extending among the labouring classes.

There are three Sunday schools attached to Wesleyan, Independent, and Baptist chapels, with 400 children on their books, few of whom have any other elementary instruction than these schools afford. The average attendance is 280.

The New Brentford Boys' National School, established in 1815, is supported by subscription. The school house is capable of containing 200 boys, but the attendance seldom exceeds 50. Sixteen of the boys are clothed from the funds of the school.

It appears that the children receiving daily instruction in the parishes of Greenford, Hanwell, Acton, Ealing, and Old and New Brentford are, to the whole population, in the ratio of one-eighth.

It is considered right to abstain from entering into any details respecting the efficiency of these schools; but it was obvious that with very limited exceptions, they were not such as were calculated to satisfy those who would wish to see the education of the labouring classes effectively conducted. Four of the masters and mistresses professed to have been regularly trained, two to have adopted the business of teaching from an early age. The master of the British and Foreign school appeared well qualified for his duties, and was regularly trained. Of the dame schools, 11 are kept by poor widows, who derive their sole subsistence from them. One of these appeared to be in a state of extreme poverty, and *solicited charity*; eight are kept by persons whose husbands are living. Two of the common day schools are kept by reduced tradesmen, one by a mechanic, and three by men who had been employed as labourers or servants; *one of these solicited charity*. Four of the masters of the middle day schools have been employed in mercantile situations, and three have been engaged in teaching from an early age. Two of the mistresses of the infant schools have been regularly trained, and one obtained her knowledge of the art of infant tuition by attending schools in London.

Contributions to the Agricultural Statistics of the Eastern Counties.

By JOSEPH FLETCHER, Esq., Hon. Sec.

[Read before the Statistical Society of London, 20th March, 1843.]

THE present anxiety to obtain some insight into agricultural statistics has prompted me to submit to the Society, in connexion with the preceding paper, the two following tables.